[Commemorative Street Plaque - The Lexington Club]

Club, located at 3464 Lexington Street, in accordance with Public Works Code, Sections 789, et seq., the Commemorative Street Plaque Ordinance.

Resolution authorizing the placement of a sidewalk plaque in front of the Lexington

WHEREAS, Since its earliest days, San Francisco has been shaped by its LGBTQ culture and the social institutions that have fostered community among lesbian, transgender, gay, and queer-identifying people; and

WHEREAS, The Lexington Club opened on January 31, 1997, as a "neighborhood space for the dykes, queers, artists, musicians and neighborhood folks who made up the community that surrounded it"; and

WHEREAS, The Lexington Club, located at the corner of 19th Street and Lexington in San Francisco's Mission District, has facilitated a strong and vibrant sense of community among San Francisco's lesbian and queer community for the past 18 years; and

WHEREAS, The Lexington Club has served as a central meeting place and organizing platform for San Francisco's various lesbian and queer organizations; and

WHEREAS, Among the many individuals who have found and contributed to the vibrant community created by the Lexington Club are artists and writers such as award-winning author and poet Michelle Tea, award-winning author Marci Blackman, fine-art photographer Catherine Opie, sculptor and performer Harry Dodge, video artist Stanya Kahn, writer and director Silas Howard, and noted painter Norma Jeanne Maloney; and

WHEREAS, In addition to fostering community among San Francisco's own lesbian community, the Lexington Club is an internationally-renowned destination for lesbians and queers from around the world; and

WHEREAS, At the time that the Lexington Club opened in 1997, the Mission District had been the center of San Francisco's lesbian community for at least three decades as the location of such institutions as Kelly's, Old Wives' Tales Bookstore, Osento Women's Baths, Amelia's, and the community-based performance space Red Dora's Bearded Lady Café; and

WHEREAS, San Francisco has lost all of those community spaces, along with many other establishments meaningful to LGBTQ people; and

WHEREAS, The Lexington Club, the City's only identified lesbian bar as of the time of this resolution, is slated to close on April 30, 2015; and

WHEREAS, Marking the significance of queer space, particularly in the wake of its loss, is a valuable means of keeping alive the memory of San Francisco's history; and

WHEREAS, Knowledge of this history encourages respect for diversity in all San Franciscans and inspires future generations to create their own community space; and

WHEREAS, Owner Lila Thirkfield and the family and staff of the Lexington Club have vowed to continue creating opportunities for San Francisco's dykes, queers, artists, and musicians to organize and socialize and thrive, in spite of the loss of their long-time home at the corner of 19th Street and Lexington Street; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors, in accordance with Public Works Code, Sections 789, *et seq.*, the Commemorative Street Plaque Ordinance, authorizes the placement of plaques on the sidewalk in front of the Lexington Club at 3464 19th Street, at Lexington Street; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, The Board directs the Department of Public Works to complete the process for reviewing and permitting the installation of plaques in the abovementioned locations and placing the abovementioned addresses on the City's official list of commemorative sites.



City and County of San Francisco **Tails**

City Hall 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

Resolution

File Number:

150314

Date Passed: March 31, 2015

Resolution authorizing the placement of a sidewalk plaque in front of the Lexington Club, located at 3464 Lexington Street, in accordance with Public Works Code, Sections 789, et seq., the Commemorative Street Plaque Ordinance.

March 31, 2015 Board of Supervisors - ADOPTED

Ayes: 9 - Avalos, Breed, Campos, Christensen, Cohen, Farrell, Kim, Tang and

Wiener

Excused: 2 - Mar and Yee

File No. 150314

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on 3/31/2015 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

> Angela Calvillo Clerk of the Board

Date Approved